

New York Times or you want to talk about redstate.com, you want to talk about MSNBC or FOX News, Morning Joe or Sean Hannity, we must be free to speak at all times because the battlefield of ideas is the only thing that is going to propel our Republic forward. It is the only thing that is going to allow young kids to grow and actually increase their intellect and to be able to transform our economy in ways that none of us in this Capitol today can even fathom. It is the very basis of what makes our Nation the greatest nation. It is what makes us unique. It is what allows us to be able to fight it out every day on this floor, verbally, of course, Mr. Speaker.

My fellow Americans, we are all in this together. Mr. Speaker, we are in this together. We can't cancel each other. We can't move people out of the public square because we find their ideas even vile or distasteful. I may not like what you have to say, Mr. Speaker. We may disagree on votes on this very floor, but the one thing I will always respect, the one thing I will always defend is your ability to say it and your ability to vote that way. My only ask is that you do the same for people on my side of the political aisle.

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his profound remarks. I now yield to the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. CHENEY), my friend and my neighbor to the north.

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank very much my friend, colleague, Mr. BUCK, for yielding me time this evening.

I know the topic, Mr. Speaker, is cancel culture. I have some thoughts about that. But tonight I rise to discuss freedom and our constitutional duty to protect it.

Mr. Speaker, I have been privileged to see firsthand how powerful and how fragile freedom is. Twenty-eight years ago, I stood outside a polling place, a schoolhouse in western Kenya. Soldiers had chased away people who were lined up to vote. A few hours later, they came streaming back in, risking further attack, undaunted in their determination to exercise their right to vote.

In 1992, I sat across the table from a young mayor in Nizhny Novgorod, Russia. I listened to him talk of his dream of liberating his nation from communism. Years later, for his dedication to the cause of freedom, Boris Nemtsov was assassinated by Vladimir Putin's thugs.

In Warsaw in 1990, I listened to a young Polish woman tell me that her greatest fear was that people would forget; they would forget what it was like to live under Soviet domination, that they would forget the price of freedom.

Three men—an immigrant who escaped Castro's totalitarian regime, a young man who grew up behind the Iron Curtain and became his country's minister of defense, and a dissident who spent years in the Soviet gulag—

have all told me it was the miracle of America, captured in the words of President Ronald Reagan that inspired them.

I have seen the power of faith and freedom. I listened to Pope John Paul II speak to thousands in Nairobi in 1985, and 19 years later, I watched that same Pope take my father's hands, look in his eyes, and say, "God bless America."

God has blessed America, Mr. Speaker, but our freedom only survives if we protect it, if we honor our oath, taken before God in this Chamber, to support and defend the Constitution, if we recognize threats to freedom when they arise.

Today, we face a threat America has never seen before. A former President, who provoked a violent attack on this Capitol in an effort to steal the election, has resumed his aggressive effort to convince Americans that the election was stolen from him. He risks inciting further violence.

Millions of Americans have been misled by the former President. They have heard only his words but not the truth, as he continues to undermine our democratic process, sowing seeds of doubt about whether democracy really works at all.

I am a conservative Republican, and the most conservative of conservative principles is reverence for the rule of law. The electoral college has voted. More than 60 State and Federal courts, including multiple judges the former President appointed, have rejected his claims. The Trump Department of Justice investigated the former President's claims of widespread fraud and found no evidence to support them. The election is over. That is the rule of law. That is our constitutional process. Those who refuse to accept the rulings of our courts are at war with the Constitution.

Our duty is clear. Every one of us who has sworn the oath must act to prevent the unraveling of our democracy. This is not about policy. This is not about partisanship. This is about our duty as Americans. Remaining silent and ignoring the lie emboldens the liar.

I will not participate in that. I will not sit back and watch in silence while others lead our party down a path that abandons the rule of law and joins the former President's crusade to undermine our democracy.

As the party of Reagan, Republicans have championed democracy, won the Cold War, and defeated the Soviet Communists. Today, America is on the cusp of another Cold War. This time with Communist China. Attacks against our democratic process and the rule of law empower our adversaries and feed Communist propaganda that American democracy is a failure. We must speak the truth. Our election was not stolen, and America has not failed.

I received a message last week from a Gold Star father who said, "Standing up for the truth honors all who gave

all." We must all strive to be worthy of the sacrifice of those who have died for our freedom. They are the patriots Katharine Lee Bates described in the words of "America the Beautiful" when she wrote, Oh beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife, who more than self, their country loved and mercy more than life.

Ultimately, Mr. Speaker, this is at the heart of what our oath requires: That we love our country more, that we love her so much that we will stand above politics to defend her, that we will do everything in our power to protect our Constitution and our freedom that has been paid for by the blood of so many. We must love America so much that we will never yield in her defense. That is our duty.

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman, and I inform the Speaker that we have no further speakers. I yield back the balance of my time.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow for morning-hour debate and noon for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 8 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, May 12, 2021, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

#### OATH OF OFFICE MEMBERS, RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, AND DELEGATES

The oath of office required by the sixth article of the Constitution of the United States, and as provided by section 2 of the act of May 13, 1884 (23 Stat. 22), to be administered to Members, Resident Commissioner, and Delegates of the House of Representatives, the text of which is carried in 5 U.S.C. 3331:

"I, AB, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God."

has been subscribed to in person and filed in duplicate with the Clerk of the House of Representatives by the following Member of the 117th Congress, pursuant to the provisions of 2 U.S.C. 25:

TROY A. CARTER, of Louisiana.

#### BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote